THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (f) Hon'ble Prime Minister, whilst addressing the Civil Servants on the Second Civil Service Day on 21st April, 2007 had, *inter alia*, mentioned of a proposal for appointment of Agents of Change. The proposal is at the concept stage.

Ex-CMD of SECL

†4655. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.B.I. had raided the premises of ex-C.M.D. of South Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (SECL) in the year 2005;

(b) if so, whether C.B.I. had lodged an F.I.R. against the said C.M.D.; and

(c) if so, in which month and year, the said C.M.D. was issued notice by the court to appear before it and the status of the above case at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The CBI has registered a case No. RC.8(A)/2005-ACB/Ranchi on 02.04.2005 against Ex-CMD, South Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (SECL) and others.

(c) The Trial Court had issued a notice on 10.11.2006 to the Ex-CMD, SECL, and in response, he appeared before the Court on 22.03.2007. The case is under trial and is at the stage of appearance of the accused

Autonomy in functioning of CBI

4656. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objective view on principle relating to the autonomy in the functioning of C.B.I.;

(b) whether it could be possible in practice for the Ruling Government:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether there are complaints against C.B.I. that they are in the clutches of Ruling Government and many items they have been extra considerate and partial towards the Government trusted accused but over rigid and unduly harsh and effective against opposition party leaders and functionaries; and

(d) the measures in the offing to make them really independent and professional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) The CBI has been accorded autonomy under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 as amended by the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 for investigation of cases.

With the enactment of the CVC Act 2003, the superintendence over the functioning of the CBI in so far as it to the investigation of offences alledged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 now vests with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). The Director CBI is appointed on the basis of recommendation of a Committee headed by the CVC and holds office for a period of not less than 2 years notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the rules relating to his conditions of service. The appointment of officers of the rank of Superintendent of Police and above and extension or curtailment of their tenure in the CBI is also made on the recommendation of the Committee headed by the CVC.

The CBI conducts investigation under the provisions of Cr. P.C. and enjoys full functional autonomy. The CBI undertakes investigation strictly as per provisions of law. The final report of each investigation is filed in the competent court as required under section 173 of the Cr. C.P.

A number of measures have already been taken by the Government to strengthen the CBI which *inter-alia*, include modernization and upgradation of infrastructure and capacity building of officers and staff of the CBI.

Appeals filed before CIC

4657. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of appeals filed before Central Information Commission